

**REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED  
TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Deadline: 15 February 2023  
for examination in 2023**

File may be downloaded at:  
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>

*Please provide only the information requested below.  
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

### **A. Identification of the organization**

#### **A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report**

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

Norsk håndverksinstitutt

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

Norwegian Crafts Institute

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

90022

#### **A.2. Address of the organization**

*Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.*

Organization: Norwegian Crafts Institute

Address: Maihaugvegen 1, 2609 Lillehammer, Norway

Telephone number: + 47 906 38 213

Email address: post@handverksinstituttet.no

Website: www.handverksinstituttet.no

Other relevant information:

### A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Mr.

Family name: Falk

Given name: Eivind

Institution/position: Director

Address: Norsk håndverksinstitutt, Maihaugvegen 1, 2609 Lillehammer

Telephone number: +47 99150862

Email address: eivind.falk@handverksinstituttet.no

Other relevant information:

## B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)<sup>1</sup>

*Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework<sup>2</sup>, as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.*

**B.1.** Describe your organization's contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We have been active in several international projects for safeguarding of the ICH and traditional crafts in particular:

Since 2012 we have been the driving force for the accredited NGOs journal "Heritage Alive" for sharing experiences from the field. This has resulted in three publications so far, on Traditional Medicine (2017), Traditional Food (2019) and Traditional Musical Instruments (2021). Currently

1. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.
2. For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

we are working on a new publication, on Storytelling, to be launched at the COM. The Editorial Board contains of active representatives from NGOs all over the world. We are cooperating with ICHCAP, the Category 2. centre for Asia and the Pacific. We strongly believe that sharing experiences and reflections between the NGO concerned is fruitful and of huge importance.

We have been an active partner in the NGO Forum and the international communities of NGOs since 4.COM

In Romania we have been partner in a project for setting up a register of Craftspeople, and for developing and implementing methodology for transmission of ICH to a new generation.

In Slovakia we are working with the NGO Obnove Gemer, using ICH and traditional Crafts as a tool, in order to establish more sustainable communities in a region with major social and economic challenges.

In Norway and the other Nordic Countries, we are cooperating with the other accredited NGOs in order to improve our capacity and methodology. We have also been involved, on different levels, in drafting the files that has been submitted from the Nordic Countries.

We are responsible for the website [www.safeguardingpractices.com](http://www.safeguardingpractices.com) where we share safeguarding experiences from the Nordic and Baltic countries.

**B.2.** *Describe your organization's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education for intangible cultural heritage**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Yearly lectures for students at Oslo Metropolitan University and Inland University College about ICH and the 2003-convention in general, and traditional crafts in particular.

Spreading information about ICH and the convention through contact with and advise to different groups and individuals working with ICH.

Norwegian Crafts institute are responsible for carrying out scholarships in crafts where we provide a framework for transmission of knowledge and specialization of crafts at a high level of expertise. It is like a MA or a Phd for craftspersons.

Lasting three years, the scholarship lends a unique opportunity to already skilled craftsmen so that they may expand their knowledge and develop their skills to a higher level. We aim to make our scholars into beacons of light in their respective field.

Through a practical approach, the scholars immerse in processes, topics and practices central to their craft.

Experience shows that the scholars later use the knowledge gained from their projects to develop further in their field of practice.

**B.3.** *Describe your organization's participation in the **inventorying and research of intangible cultural heritage**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

In close cooperation with the communities and bearers concerned we maintain a directory of craftsmen who practise traditional trades and techniques.

The Register of Craftsmen in Norway (Håndverksregisteret) was established in 1987 and this database provides an overview of the practitioners in traditional trades and techniques. Today 2700 Craftspeople are registered in this inventory, and it is off course online. The Register has many important functions:

- a marketing channel for craftsmen
- a means of establishing contact between potential clients and craftsmen
- a tool for building networks

- an aid for the Norwegian Crafts Institute for locating bearers of traditions
- and tradesmen for our projects for both documentation and teaching
- a source of information about enterprises for apprenticeships of rare and protected crafts and trades.

The [www.safeguardingpractices.com](http://www.safeguardingpractices.com) webpage transmits and disseminates experiences in safeguarding of ICH to a wider audience and between the NGOs concerned. Particular in the Nordic and Baltic countries. The institute actively participate in the Nordic-Baltic group.

We give advice and assist communities and bearers when they are suggesting inscriptions in the Norwegian inventory [www.immaterieellkulturarv.no/](http://www.immaterieellkulturarv.no/)

Advisory role in the preparation of files for inscription on the Representative List, and also assisting communities that suggest elements that have potential for national inventory and/or international inscription.

**B.4.** Describe your organization's participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Currently we are interacting with the advisory committee working on a new law of Cultural Environment in Norway. (Work ongoing 2023/2024) In order to find fruitful alternatives, we have used our international network of NGOs. We are also drawing on our Nordic/Baltic and international network to seek inspiration from the different ways ICH have been included in the legislation of different countries.

**B.5.** Describe your organization's participation in promoting the **role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

The institute play an active role in the Norwegian network for ICH - where the next meeting will be held on the 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> of May at Maihaugen (during the Literary Festival), Lillehammer. Participants from the Nordic-Baltic network will also be present.

In the network we are currently working on a common strategy for a broader dissemination/communication plan for spreading information on the importance and relevance of ICH.

In our 30 ongoing projects for transmission of crafts and our Three-year Scholarship scheme for craftspeople, spread all over Norway, we are interacting with communities and bearers, in the spirit of the convention. The safeguarding measures are discussed and reflected upon, in cooperation with the communities concerned.

In particular we are aware of having a holistic approach to our safeguarding activities. What are the social and cultural functions of the element? How does the traditional crafts relate to the other domains. As an example is our project safeguarding the traditional willow flute, which is not just one domain, but also knowledge about nature and the universe, particular magic rhymes used for removing the bark, and off course traditional music.

**B.6.** Describe your organization's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

In a close cooperation with communities and bearers we document and pass on knowledge of traditional craftsmanship to new generations, and in the spirit of the convention.

The Norwegian Crafts Institute carries out documenting and training projects and thereby

contributes to the transmission of traditional crafts, with a special emphasis on living knowledge that is in danger of disappearing. This work generates an extensive quantity of material in the forms of photos, videos, and texts, which documents various processes. However important this documentation may be, the most important aspect of these projects is the provision of knowledge to professionals through interactions with a bearer of a tradition, that is to say, action-borne knowledge. In this way knowledge is passed on to a new generation of craftsmen. Each year the Norwegian Crafts Institute carries out about 30 on-going projects relating to most trades. The projects take place mainly in Norway, but we also participate in international arenas.

Every year we publish several articles in relevant journals in Norway and abroad about the implementation of the ICH and the 2003 convention. In 2022 we published 6 articles related to ICH in different journals.

We are contributing to international journals and publications, like the Culture SEP published by the Bucharest University, <https://www.facultateademangement.ro/culture-sep/>

**B.7.** Describe your organization's participation in facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Norwegian Crafts Institute are organizing open events where we invite communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders. Different themes concerning safeguarding of the safeguarding intangible cultural heritage are debated. We have named it "Advancing the Crafts" (Løfte håndverket) This is an open community of those who share an interest in the crafts from all the trades and well as a forum for debate. It is also an important channel of communication with the governmental authorities. The network gathers twice a year, in spring and in fall. Representatives from important craft milieus and independent craftsmen give advice and suggest the themes for the gatherings. The network welcomes practising craftsmen and organizations. Themes has as an example been: Crafts and sustainability, how to organizing craftspeople in Norway, Crafts related to Churches, and education in traditional crafts on different levels.

We actively use our projects, contacts and networks to spread information about ICH and the Convention. We have a broad network all over Norway and contact with different communities within the minority groups in Norway, especially several Saami and Kven communities and tradition bearers.

We also work to strengthen the cooperation between built heritage and ICH. We have two members of ICOMOS Norway in our staff. Here we can use our insight and background from both tangible and intangible heritage to strengthen the focus on ICH in ICOMOS, both via the Norwegian ICOMOS-group and internationally.

The Norwegian Crafts Institute are playing an active coordinating role in the Norwegian ICH-network

**B.8.** Describe your organization's **engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels** for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Norwegian crafts Institute are:

- Participating in the Finnish-led LIVIND-project
- An active partner in the steering group of the Nordic Baltic -network
- We are responsible for the [www.safeguardingpractices.com](http://www.safeguardingpractices.com) website where we are sharing information and experiences through in cooperation with the Nordic- Baltic network on ICH. Since this webpage is in English, the experiences are of relevance also for an international audience. A special focus for us are examples from ICH and sustainable development, the value of traditional knowledge, a broader geographical scope and

minority communities.

- Since 2012 we have been the driving force for the accredited NGOs journal “Heritage Alive” for sharing experiences from the field. This has resulted in three publications so far, on Traditional Medicine (2017), Traditional Food (2019) and Traditional Musical Instruments (2021). Currently we are working on a new publication, on Storytelling, to be launched at the COM. The Editorial Board contains of active representatives from NGOs all over the world. We are cooperating with ICHCAP, the Category 2.center for Asia and the Pacific. We strongly believe that sharing experiences and reflections between the NGO concerned is fruitful and of huge importance.
- We have been a partner and actively participating in international projects in countries like India (Together with Banglatanak.com), Romania (Institutul Național al Patrimoniului), Slovakia (Obneme Gemer). All of these activities have been related to crafts and ICH.
- We have a close relation to the British NGO, HCA, assisted them and also participated in Englands All-parliamentary group in order to guide them on their way to a ratification of the convention.
- We have also been participating in international events like conference for boatbuilders in England, participating with two members of our staff.

**B.9.** *Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We have been involved and contributing to Norway's Periodical Report in all stages of the process, and we have been supporting them with text and advice on their way.

We have a good relation to our state party, and we are often used as consultants when they have questions related to the 2003 convention or to inscriptions on the international level

**B.10.** *Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We have played a consultative and advisory role assisting communities and bearers who are considering an element for inscription. Because of our former role as a member of the evaluation body, we receive requests from Norway, the other Nordic countries and also from countries far away.

## C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

- Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO
- Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- Financial support from the Participation Programme
- Other types of cooperation

Not to exceed 250 words

Norwegian Crafts Institute was elected as a member of the Evaluation Body from 2016-2019  
In 2017 we received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO / of the 2003 convention for the #HeritageAlive publication "Traditional Medicine, -Sharing experiences from the field"  
We have had a fruitful cooperation with ICHCAP on the #HeritageAlive publications, and we are continuing our cooperation.

## D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

D.1 Has your organization participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.

Not to exceed 250 words

Norwegian Crafts Institute have participated in all the sessions of the committee since 4.COM in Abu Dhabi.

We have been an active member of the NGO Forum since the beginning, and we were one of the NGOs that took the initiative to organize the forum, and we have had different roles since then. We chaired the Forum at the 6.COM in Bali

From 8.COM in Baku we took initiative to establish the #HeritageAlive, the accredited NGOs journal for sharing experiences from the field. After Baku we have been responsible for organizing the #HeritageAlive event at every committee meeting since then.

D.2 Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.

Not to exceed 100 words

Norwegian Crafts Institute were elected a member of the Evaluation Body 2016-2019.

**D.3** *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

*Not to exceed 500 words*

We have been a member of the Evaluation Body and played an active role there.

Our institute are good at organizing international networking between the NGOs. Though our experience with international projects, and in particular #HeritageAlive and [www.safeguardingpractices.com](http://www.safeguardingpractices.com) we believe we can contribute to the sharing of experiences and methodology related to safeguarding, between the NGOs.

## **E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives):**

**E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

We have 6 members of the staff that have a very good command of English.

**E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Even if crafts are our main focus, an element can hardly be reduced to one domain. For us it is important to promote a comprehensive perspective on intangible cultural heritage.

In our work with [www.safeguardingpractices.com](http://www.safeguardingpractices.com) and the Journal #HeritageAlive, we work with all the domains.

When we were a part of the Evaluation Body we worked with all the domains.

**E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

As our organization was member of the Evaluation Body (2016-19) we have examined more than 200 international files for possible inscription. We have also examined other files, from the Nordic countries, before submission.

**E.4.** *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

5 members of our staff have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English. This is some examples of our experience:

- Two members of our staff wrote their MA (Related to ICH) in English
- One member of the staff is currently writing her MA (related to ICH) in English
- Three members of our staff have recently published articles (Related to ICH) in English



- One member of our staff is editing the [www.safeguardingpractices.com](http://www.safeguardingpractices.com) which is in English
- One member of our staff is the Editor-In-Chief of the by UNESCO accredited NGOs journal #HeritageAlive
- When the institute published the book "Living Crafts" (Hertervig Akademisk), five members of the staff wrote articles that were published.
- One member of the staff has published in the Intangible Heritage Studies (2019 vol.4 No.2)
- One member of the staff edited the journal, and wrote the introduction "Can Traditional Crafts Help Us Save the World?" in the journal Culture SEP, Vol.2, No.1 about Traditional Crafts and Sustainable Development

E.5. Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.

Not to exceed 250 words

Working on the international level has been important for our organization in order to gain inspiration and to improve our work. There is always something to learn and that can be improved. We believe our international engagement has helped us to improve our insight, methodology and our general work in the field of ICH.

As ICH is living heritage, and always *in* people, bearers, individuals, and communities, the local experience is allways a core issue for us. The communities and the bearers concerned, and their involvement in all stages in the process, is the most important part of our work.

This has been the perspective in our international projects, where we have been sharing experiences from the field, both for the #HeritageAlive Journal, and for the [www.safeguardingpractices.com](http://www.safeguardingpractices.com)

## F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

## G. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organization.

Name: Eivind Falk

Title: Director

Date: 10.02.23

Signature: 